

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 159064

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, TECH

SUBJECT: OVERLAPPING SUPPLIER REQUIREMENTS ON NUCLEAR
MATERIAL: PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS WITH CANADA AND JAPAN

1. BILATERAL TALKS WERE HELD IN WASHINGTON ON JUNE 27
WITH CANADA, AND ON JUNE 28 WITH CANADA AND JAPAN ON THE
PROBLEM OF THE DUPLICATION OF RIGHTS OF CONTROL OVER
SUPPLIED NUCLEAR MATERIAL REQUIRED BY BOTH NATURAL URANIUM
SUPPLIERS AND ENRICHERS. THIS PROBLEM HAS BEEN RAISED BY
JAPAN IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH CANADA REGARDING CONCLUSION
OF A BILATERAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN CANADA AND JAPAN WHICH
COULD PERMIT THE RENEWED FLOW OF CANADIAN URANIUM EXPORTS
TO JAPAN. IT APPEARS THAT SOME RESOLUTION MUST BE ACHIEVED
BEFORE CANADIAN EXPORTS WILL RESUME. CANADIAN AND JAPANESE
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FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD AGREED TO APPROACH US TO WORK TOWARD
A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM.

2. DURING THE JUNE 27 US/CANADA TALKS, CANADA PRESENTED
A PAPER FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION, PROPOSING THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE MECHANISM AMONG,
INITIALLY, CANADA, THE US AND JAPAN (AND EVENTUALLY

PERHAPS INCLUDING AUSTRALIA) AT A CENTRAL LOCATION SUCH AS WASHINGTON OR OAK RIDGE. THE PURPOSE OF THIS CENTER WOULD BE: (A) TO DEVELOP AN AGREED UPON INVENTORY OF SUPPLIED

NUCLEAR MATERIAL; AND (B) COORDINATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUPPLIER CONSENT RIGHTS OVER SUCH MATERIAL. UNDER THIS ARRANGEMENT, ALL CONSUMER REQUESTS TO UNDERTAKE ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO SUPPLIERS' CONSENT WOULD BE RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE, AND A SINGLE AND CONSOLIDATED RESPONSE (APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL) WOULD BE PROVIDED. IN EFFECT, THE OFFICE WOULD PROVIDE A MEANS FOR SIMPLIFYING THE PROCEDURAL AND INFORMATIONAL ASPECTS OF APPROVALS PURSUANT TO BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITHOUT ELIMINATING INDIVIDUAL SUPPLIER CONTROLS OVER THE MATERIAL IT SUPPLIES, EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT THAT COMMON CONTROLS HAD BEEN AGREED UPON. THE US TEAM INDICATED ITS INTEREST IN THE CANADIAN PROPOSAL, BUT INDICATED THE NEED TO STUDY THE MATTER IN GREATER DETAIL.

3. ON JUNE 28, THE US AND CANADIAN TEAMS WERE JOINED FOR TRILATERAL TALKS BY A JAPANESE DELEGATION HEADED BY KAWASHIMA AND HAZUMI. AT THE OUTSET, THE JAPANESE STATED THEIR POSITION ON THE ISSUE OF DOUBLE CONTROLS: (A) THE BASIC QUESTION IS HOW TO DEAL WITH DUPLICATION OF RIGHTS OF CONTROL REQUIRED BY BOTH NATURAL URANIUM SUPPLIERS AND ENRICHERS. THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT BELIEVES CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT THE QUESTION BY ITS VERY NATURE REQUIRES MULTINATIONAL CONSULTATION AND SOLUTIONS; (B) IN THE INTERIM, PENDING MULTINATIONAL AGREEMENT, JAPAN WISHES TO IDENTIFY SPECIFIC MEASURES WHICH WOULD ENSURE RESUMPTION OF CANADIAN SUPPLY TO JAPAN; AND (C) THE GOJ FIRMLY BELIEVES DUPLICATION OF CONTROL MUST BE AVOIDED. RIGHTS OF CONTROL MUST BE CONFINED TO EITHER NATURAL URANIUM SUPPLIERS OR ENRICHERS, BUT NOT BOTH.

4. FOLLOWING THE JAPANESE STATEMENT, THE CANADIANS TABLED A REVISED DRAFT OF THE PAPER REFERRED IN PARA. 2. THE JAPANESE NOTED THAT THE CANADIAN PROPOSAL DOES NOT REMOVE THE ISSUE OF DOUBLE CONTROLS, BUT COULD REDUCE THE INCONVENIENCES INVOLVED. US ALSO NOTED THAT THE PROPOSAL WOULD NOT ELIMINATE EXISTING SUPPLIER RIGHTS, BUT SAID A WORKING INFORMATION SYSTEM WAS ONE BASIC REQUIREMENT FOR ANY EFFORT TO ACHIEVE A COMMON POLICY WHICH WOULD IN EFFECT ELIMINATE THE DUPLICATION OF CONTROLS. JAPAN WILL EXAMINE THE IDEA AND WILL BE COMMENTING OFFICIALLY THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS WITHOUT UNDUE DELAY. VANCE

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